



Venturing Leadership Award SOPs

National Venturing Committee, December 2018

Venturing Leadership Award (VLA)

In order to recognize Venturers and Venturing Advisors who have made exceptional contributions to Venturing and who exemplify the Scout Oath and Law, councils, areas, regions, and the BSA National Venturing Committee may present individuals with the Venturing Leadership Award.

The Council Award is administered by each Council and reported to the National Service Center. Area, Region, and National awards are selected by a committee at the respective tier and are processed by the National Service Center and shipped to the appropriate persons for presentation.

Nominations for both the National and Region Venturing Leadership Awards are due on the date stated on the nomination form found on venturing.org. Qualifications and other information about nominations can be found on venturing.org.

Award Guidelines:

- Requests for the VLAs to arrive before January 15th or within 10 business days of submitting the names to the National Service Center (whichever is later) **will not** be accepted due to processing time.
- Council and Area Venturing Committees must inform the Venturers and Advisors in their respective area of their nomination deadline.
- Only the current nomination forms may be used, which are available at Venturing.org.

VLA Selection Committee Chair

- The selection committee chair serves at the request of the Venturing Awards and Recognition Committee and is also approved by the Venturing Committee Chair and the staff advisor. If the Venturing Advisor for that tier also serves as Venturing Chair, the VLA Selection Committee Chair will serve at their request and must also be approved by the Venturing staff advisor for that tier. The chair should be a recipient of the Venturing Leadership Award for the level of the award committee they are chairing (council, area, region, national).
- In absence of a functioning council Venturing Committee or advisor, the council Scout Executive or their designee appoints the Council VLA Selection Committee Chair. In absence of a functioning Area Venturing Committee or advisor the Area Director or their designee appoints the Area VLA Selection Chair. In absence of a functioning Regional Venturing Committee or advisor the Regional Director or their designee appoints the Regional VLA Selection Chair. In absence of a functioning National Venturing Committee the Venturing Director or Chief Scout Executive appoints the National VLA Selection Chair.

VLA Selection Committee

- The selection committee is appointed by the VLA Committee Chair and approved by the Venturing Chair (or Venturing advisor) and staff advisor.
- The selection committee should consist of past Venturing Leadership Award Recipients for the award level being selected (council, area, region and national).
- The selection committee shall consist of no less than 5 members and no more than 10 members. It must be a balance of youth and adult representation with a difference of no more than one.
- In addition to the committee, the Scout executive or their designee or the staff advisor at each tier will sit as a voting member of the committee. It is not required for this person to be a recipient of the VLA award, but they are ineligible if they are also a nominee.
- The selection committee shall consist of diverse representation from within the level of the award. For a council this means multiple districts represented, for an area this means multiple councils represented, for a region this means multiple areas represented, for national it means each of the regions must be represented.
- No family members of nominees can sit on the tier's VLA selection committee. Family is defined as any person by blood or marriage.

Voting

- All members of the selection committee shall have a vote, including the chair.
- Committee members will decide whether each nomination shall be a recipient by a simple majority vote.
- If more candidates receive a majority vote than the quota allows, the candidates with the greatest number of votes shall be selected. If a tie still exists, the selection committee shall vote amongst the candidates who tied to determine the selection.
- After the selection process is completed, the chair will submit the VLA Approval Form to their council or the appropriate department at the National Service Center of the Boy Scouts of America.
- Presentation of the VLA Award should be made at an appropriate level such as Council Annual Banquet, Area and Regional meetings and the National Annual Meeting.

Venturing Leadership Award level	Nomination deadline	Selection deadline	Quota
Council VLA	Set by council Venturing Committee or Awards Committee.	June 1 of nominating year.	Councils may award however many Council VLAs they choose to all qualified candidates. However, a Council may only conduct one selection per year.
Area VLA	Set by area Venturing Committee or area Awards Committee. Must be after January 1.	June 1 of nominating year.	Up to twelve awards may be presented.
Region VLA	January 31	June 1 of nominating year.	Up to twelve awards may be presented.
National VLA	January 15	June 1 of nominating year.	Up to twelve awards may be presented.

VLA Level	Medallion	Description	VLA Award Knot For all VLA levels (youth and adult)	VLA Certificate Available through National Service Center, Venturing
Council		Purchase Supply item #4220 Blue and white ribbon	 Supply item #14220	VLA Certificate available only through BSA National Service Center (#622116) 
Area		Purchase Supply item #614296 Silver and white ribbon		
Region		Purchase Supply item #606782 Green and white ribbon		
National		Provided Supply item #4222 Red and white ribbon		